

the same manner as domestic distilled spirits. Spirits transferred from customs custody to the bonded premises of a distilled spirits plant under the provisions of this subpart shall be received and stored thereat, and withdrawn or transferred therefrom, subject to the provisions of part 19 of this chapter. The person operating the bonded premises of the distilled spirits plant to which spirits are transferred under the provisions of this subpart shall become liable for the tax on distilled spirits withdrawn from customs custody under 26 U.S.C. 5232, upon release of the spirits from customs custody, and the person bringing the spirits into the United States shall thereupon be relieved of his liability for such tax.

§ 26.301 Preparation of transfer record.

The person bringing spirits into the United States from the Virgin Islands under this subpart shall prepare a transfer record, in triplicate, according to § 26.273a, and present the record to the customs officer responsible for inspection and release of the spirits. A separate transfer record shall be prepared for each conveyance.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512-0250)

[T.D. ATF-198, 50 FR 8555, Mar. 1, 1985. Redesignated and amended by T.D. ATF-459, 66 FR 38550, 38552, July 25, 2001]

§ 26.302 Gauge and certification.

(a) *Gauge.* If Virgin Islands spirits to be transferred from customs custody to internal revenue bond as provided in this subpart are not gauged by an insular gauger at the time of their withdrawal from an insular bonded warehouse, as provided in § 26.204 of this chapter, the insular consignor shall effect a gauge of each bulk container and shall prepare a record of such gauge, in duplicate, and attach both copies to the certificate required by § 26.205 of this chapter. If the gauge is made by the insular gauger his record of gauge shall be prepared in duplicate and both copies shall be attached to the certificate.

(b) *Certification.* The certification prescribed by § 26.205 of this chapter shall be prepared in duplicate if the Virgin Islands spirits are to be trans-

ferred from customs custody to internal revenue bond. Both copies of the certificate, with the applicable record of gauge attached, shall be filed with the district director of customs at the port of entry. The original of the certificate and related record of gauge shall be attached by the customs officer to the original of the transfer record received as provided in § 26.301 from the importer.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512-0250)

[T.D. ATF-198, 50 FR 8555, Mar. 1, 1985. Redesignated and amended by T.D. ATF-459, 66 FR 38550, 38552, July 25, 2001]

§ 26.303 Customs inspection and release.

The customs officer shall not release distilled spirits under this subpart until he inspects the spirits, and, if it appears that losses in transit were sustained from any container, he shall gauge the spirits in such container. If the spirits are in a bulk conveyance, the customs officer shall record the elements of his gauge on the transfer record, or, if the spirits are in packages, on the gauge record required by § 26.302, and attach it to the transfer record. The customs officer shall also record on the transfer record the port of entry, carrier identification, and warehouse entry number. When the consignee has complied with all customs requirements, the customs officer shall release the spirits for transfer to the distilled spirits plant, by dating and signing the transfer record with his title the statement: "To the best of my knowledge the information hereon is accurate and the spirits are released". The customs officer shall retain a copy of the transfer record and any attachment, forward a copy of the transfer record and any attachments to the appropriate ATF officer, and give the original of the transfer record with any attachments to the consignee.

[T.D. ATF-198, 50 FR 8555, Mar. 1, 1985. Redesignated and amended by T.D. ATF-459, 66 FR 38550, 38552, July 25, 2001]

§ 26.304 Bulk conveyances to be sealed.

When a shipment of distilled spirits from customs custody to the distilled spirits plant is made in a tank, tank

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barge, cargo container, tank car, tank truck, or similar bulk conveyance, all openings affording access to the spirits shall be sealed by the customs officer with customs seals in such manner as will prevent unauthorized removal of spirits through such openings without detection.

§ 26.305 Receipt by consignee.

Proprietors of distilled spirits plants who receive Virgin Islands spirits under this subpart shall follow the requirements in 27 CFR part 19 for spirits received by transfer in bond. However, proprietors are not required to file application on ATF Form 5100.16 to receive Virgin Islands spirits from customs custody.

[T.D. ATF-198, 50 FR 8555, Mar. 1, 1985]

Subpart Ob—Claims for Drawback on Eligible Articles From the Virgin Islands

SOURCE: T.D. ATF-263, 52 FR 46595, Dec. 9, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

§ 26.306 Drawback of tax.

Any person who brings eligible articles into the United States from the Virgin Islands may claim drawback of the distilled spirits excise taxes paid on such articles as provided in this subpart.

§ 26.307 Special tax.

Any person filing claim for drawback of tax on eligible articles brought into the United States from the Virgin Islands shall pay special tax as required by 26 U.S.C. 5131. For purposes of special tax, subparts C and D of part 17 of this chapter shall apply as if the use and tax determination occurred in the United States at the time the article was brought into the United States, and each business location from which entry of eligible articles is caused or effected shall be treated as a place of manufacture. If special tax is paid for any such business location under part 17 of this chapter, as a place where nonbeverage products are manufactured for purposes of drawback, then

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no additional special tax need be paid for that location under this section.

[T.D. ATF-263, 52 FR 46595, Dec. 9, 1987, as amended by T.D. ATF-271, 53 FR 17559, May 17, 1988; T.D. ATF-379, 61 FR 31427, June 20, 1996]

§ 26.308 Bonds.

(a) *General.* Persons bringing eligible articles into the United States from the Virgin Islands and intending to file monthly claims for drawback under the provisions of this subpart shall obtain a bond on Form 5154.3. When the limit of liability under a bond given in less than the maximum amount has been reached, further drawback on monthly claims may be suspended until a strengthening or superseding bond in a sufficient amount has been furnished. For provisions relating to bonding requirements, subpart E of part 17 of this chapter is incorporated in this part.

(b) *Approval required.* No person bringing eligible articles into the United States from the Virgin Islands may file monthly claims for drawback under the provisions of this subpart until a bond on ATF Form 5154.3 has been approved.

[T.D. ATF-379, 61 FR 31427, June 20, 1996, as amended by T.D. ATF-451, 66 FR 21670, May 1, 2001]

§ 26.309 Claims for drawback.

(a) *General.* Persons bringing eligible articles into the United States from the Virgin Islands must file claim for drawback on ATF Form 2635 (5620.8). Upon finding that the claimant has satisfied the requirements of this subpart, the appropriate ATF officer must allow the drawback of taxes at a rate of \$1 less than the lesser of \$10.50 a proof gallon or the rate specified in 26 U.S.C. 5001(a).

(b) *Information on claims.* The claim must set forth the following:

(1) That the special tax has been paid;

(2) That the eligible articles brought into the United States on which drawback is claimed are fully taxpaid or tax-determined;

(3) That the eligible articles on which drawback is claimed are nonbeverage products; and

(4) That the eligible articles were manufactured in the Virgin Islands in